Paragraphs of ſome Letters, among many others, from Aleppo, Smyrna, Conſtantinople, *to prove the Reaſonableneſs of the* Levant-*Company's late Orders to carry on their Trade by General Ships.*

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From Mr. John Lethieullier *in* Conſtantinople *to Sir* Gerrard Conyers *in* London.

Galata, Feb. 12. 1717.

AND unleſs the Company will think it their Intereſt to regulate their Trade by general Shipping, I cannot adviſe you to be concerned in Cloth for this Place. I am of Opinion, they ought to regulate it to two Years Shipping.

If no Ship is put up for this Place or *Smyrna*, till this Time Twelve-months, I believe it will be vaſtly for our Advantage; for till that Time, I preſume will be no Want of Cloth, being ſufficient at Market, and a miſerable Trade. *Sign'd*, John Lethieullier.

Galata, May 12. 1718.

WE have a miſerable Trade, and if Ships are permitted to drop out, as they have done this Year, I deſpair of ſeeing it better, but fear it will be worſe.

Sign'd, John Lethieullier.

Galata, November 15. 1718.

IF the Company can but keep to their Reſolution of not ſending out Ships till towards *May* next, at ſooneſt; otherwiſe I am ſure very good Eſtates will be intirely ſacrificed to a Parcel of hard-headed *Jews*, *Greeks* and *Armenians*, who ſeem to manage us and our Eſtates as they pleaſe. At *Aleppo* the Gentlemen are ſufficiently ſtock'd with Cloth, *&c.* as by the incloſed Paragraph from Mr. *Thomas Whateley*; and I am ſure here is no Want of Cloth, or other Goods, being ſupply'd for ſome Time to come. *Sign'd*, John Lethieullier.

From Mr. Thomas Whateley, *Merchant in* Aleppo, *to Mr.* John Lethieullier *in* Conſtantinople.

Aleppo, Auguſt 23. 1718.

NOtwithſtanding ſo many Returns have been made by the Ships, there is ſtill a very large Eſtate in our Gentlemens Hands to be inveſted, which cannot be finiſhed intirely till the latter End of the Spring, no leſs than 1500 Bales of Cloth, a great Part fine, 250 Cheſts of Tin, beſides a Quantity of Lead, and ſome other Commodities, and at leaſt half that Value in Money, to help them off, incluſive of 170,000 Pieces of Eight, and without Demand; which plainly evinces the great Reaſon the *Aleppo-Traders* have to endeavour the Putting a Stop to Trade for ſome Time.

From Mr. John Levett *in* Aleppo, *to Mr.* John Fiſher *in* London.

Aleppo, July 30. 1718.

IT is the beſt Thing the *Turky*-Company ever did, the Deferring their Shipping; however, it has not as yet had the deſired Effect, it might be hoped from it.

Sign'd, John Levett.

From Mr. Abraham Palmentier *in* Conſtantinople, *to Mr.* Iſaac Boddington *in* London.

Galata, July 10, 1718.

I Perceive the *Levant*-Company had put a Stop to Shipping; I am of Opinion they have done very well, and to continue their Reſolutions, and that no Ship arrive here till *Autumn* 1719: There is no other Remedy to help their bad Trade, and which is in their own Hands. *Sign'd*, Abraham Palmentier.

Galata, July 22, 1718.

I Am informed the Companies Reſolution for General Ships, and that none ſhall be for a Time; I am of Opinion they are in the Right, and will do well to go through in the Matter, That no ships ſhould depart *England* before *Auguſt* 1719. which is the only effectual Way to mend the Trade at home and abroad. *Sign'd*, Abraham Palmentier.

Galata, Septemb. 2. 1718.

I Repeat the Contents of my late Letters, that you keep my Effects by you, and not ſend me any Thing, even if any Ship ſhould come out this Winter, which I hope and deſire may not, as I am ſure is the Advantage of the Trade and Intereſt of every one.

Sign'd, Abraham Palmentier.

Galata, October 4. 1718.

SEnd none of my Effects out to me, but keep them by you. Since this Embroil with *Spain*, there are further Reaſons not to ſend out Shipping for *Turky*.

Sign'd, Abraham Palmentier.

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Aleppo, Feb. 15. 1717.

I believe every One here is ſenſible how the Market is over-ſtock'd, and doubtleſs they will write their Principals accordingly; and I as little doubt but they'll find Credit from the diſmal Account of their Eſtates, which gives me Reaſon to think we ſhall not have a freſh Supply the next Year. *Sign'd*, Benjamin Boddington.

Aleppo, July 1. 1718.

I Hope, after ſo long a Time as the Trade has been declining, it will now find a happy Turn, and may be reaſonably expected, if you forbear ſending more Ships till *Autumn* Twelve-month, and I don't believe any other Thing can mend this Trade. I am ſomewhat impatient to receive Letters from *England* to know what Reſolution the Company are come to; I am told they have laid a Broke of 20 *per Cent.* on Silver, and are reſolved no Ships ſhall come out till *Autumn* Twelve-month, and that the Trade ſhall then be drove by general Ships: If it be true, it is the beſt News I have heard for a long Time.

Sign'd, Benjamin Boddington.

From Mr. John Lethieullier *in* Conſtantinople, *to Mr.* John Fiſher *in* London.

Galata, Decemb. 4. 1717.

SIR, It is a long time ſince I paid my reſpects to you laſt; and now being without any of your Favours, I have only to adviſe you, Occurences in Trade: at preſent it is at a miſerable paſs, Cloth, nor nothing elſe will turn to Account, except Pieces of Eight, *Mexico*-Money, which are worth 148 *per Cent.* Tin, 32 D. *per Kintal.* Pepper a $\frac{4}{120}$ *per Oke*; the Defeat of the *Turks* this Year, and the Negotiations on Foot, has done us a prodigious Detriment; tho' the Report of the *Stamboleen*, and other Ships being daily expected, is a vaſt Prejudice likewiſe, which makes me deſpair of ſeeing this Trade worth driving again, ſo long as the *Levant-Company* ſuffer Ships to flock in ſo faſt upon us; for thoſe who Sell on Arrival, are miſerably bantered; and to keep for a Market, freſh Supplies drop in, which makes all *European* Commodities meer Drugs, and thoſe of *Turkey* exceſſive dear; for which I can ſee no Remedy, unleſs the Company could be prevailed upon to ſend out Shipping but once in Two Years, or at certain Seaſons; but as the Trade is now drove, I can ſee nought but Ruin attend it, I wiſh our Company would ſeek to regulate their Trade, and don't doubt of your Endeavours to recover it from a Languiſhing Condition: And be aſſured, Sir, That what I write, is out of pure Zeal for my Employers Service, but contrary to my own Intereſt; for it is natural for Factors to ſeek to get Buſineſs, without conſidering, whether the Principal makes Profit or Loſs.

Sign'd John Lethieullier,

From Mr. John Godſchall *at* Aleppo, *To Meſſieurs* Lockwood *and* Phillipps, *in* London,

Aleppo, July 17. 1718.

THE Company keeping their Reſolution, their Trade is effectually mended, which God grant. *Sign'd*, John Godſchall.

From Mr. Thomas Allen *at* Smyrna, *to Meſſieurs* Lockwood, *and* Phillipps *in* London.

Smyrna, May 12. 1718.

I Cannot blame the Company for coming to this Reſolution, for the Trade is really ſo bad, it will require a deſperate Remedy, Kill or Cure, and it may be your Intereſt to ſit ſtill a while to ſee whether it mends. *Sign'd*, Thomas Allen.

From Meſſieurs Balam *and Company at* Aleppo, *To Meſſieurs* Lockwood *and* Phillipps, *in* London.

Aleppo, June 20. 1718.

THough we are heartily ſorrow the Advice you are pleaſed to impart to us, of the Company's Reſolutions to retard the Ships till this time Twelve Months, did not come time enough to be of the mutual deſired Service to you; ſuch prudent Meaſures we could not imagine would ever have been taken at home, notwithſtanding our repeated Complaints, contrary to our Intereſt, that this Trade was much over driven, becauſe we have ſeen it rather increaſe every Year, by an unaccountable Emulation, for the Sake of an inconſiderable Gain by the Ships, when put in Competition with the General Loſs. *Sign'd* Balam *and* Company.

From Mr. Abraham Palmentier *at* Conſtantinople, *to Mr.* William Dunſter, *in* London,

Galata, July 10. 1718.

HEre are *London* Letters to the Beginning of *May*, adviſing the *Levant*-Company's Reſolution paſt for general Shipping, and to put a ſtop to Ships; I am of Opinion, they have done well, and will do well to continue their Reſolution; and that no Ships ſhould arrive *Turkey* before *Autumn* 1719. this Method will mend their Returns, and nothing elſe; I am not for oppoſing the Company in this Matter, which I take to be ſo good a One. *Sign'd* Abrah. Palmentier.

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T[illegible] Company's Order for general Ships is arrived here, I mean Orders, That no Ships should depart *England* before *Autumn* 1719, and it's the only effectual Way to mend the Trade at Home and Abroad, and the Company will do well to go through with this Matter. *Sign'd* Abraham Palmentier.

From Mr. Charles Lock *in* Aleppo, *To Mr.* John Evans, *in* London.

Aleppo, June 30, 1718.

May be at leaſt 8000 Cloths.

THE late Reſolutions of the Honourable *Levant*-Company not to haſten out Ships, have caſt a more favourable Aſpect on this Trade; for which God be thanked, our Nation have now, unſold, Sixteen to Seventeen Hundred Bales of Cloth. *Sign'd* Charles Lock.

From Mr. John Godſchall *in* Aleppo, *To Mr.* Lewis Hays, *in* London.

Aleppo, Novemb. 30, 1717.

THE beſt Sett of Factors in the World are not ſufficient to keep this Trade within Compaſs, when it is ſo hurried and over-drove. Ever ſince I have been abroad, I never ſaw ſo melancholy a Scene of Trade preſent it ſelf as at this time. *Sign'd* John Godſchall.

Aleppo, May 30, 1718.

WE only want News from *England*, that the Company are inclined to be leſs furious in Shipping, which I do aſſure you, I almoſt depend on; if ſevere Loſs and Diſcouragement can produce ſuch an Effect. *Sign'd* John Godſchall.

From Mr. John Godſchall *and Mr.* William Whitfeld *in* Aleppo, *to Mr.* Samuel Whitfeld, *in* London.

Aleppo, September 23, 1718.

OUR only dread at preſent, is Shipping from *England*, which according to all Reaſon, ought not to be expected; and perhaps, the Report we hear of a War with *Spain*, may contribute to their Delay, which God grant. By Computation, we reckon there may be about 1300 Bales of Cloth in firſt Hands, and above one hundred thouſand Pieces of Eight, beſides 200 Bales Cloth under *Bagdateen Boulo*'s and very large Caſh in ſome of our Nation's Hands. Now let any one conſider what inevitable Ruin muſt be the Conſequence of Shipping for ſome time yet, and how much the Perſons concerned on this Side the Water are obliged to prevent it. *Sing'd* Godſchall *and* Whitfeld.

From Meſſieurs Kenelm *and* Everard Fawkener *in* Aleppo, *to Mr.* William Snelling *in* London.

Aleppo, *March* 21, 1717.

FOR our Part, we can give no Encouragement to any Body without a better Proſpect, and ſo had much rather be without Buſineſs than gain our own Benefits at the Expence of our Friends. The Eſtate now in *Turky* we eſteem nigh ſufficient for two Years.
Sign'd, *Kenelm* and *Everard Fawkener.*

Aleppo, *April* 21, 1718.

BUT let the Eſtate of the People in the Country be never ſo great, and the Company will not hold their Hands, to not ſend out any Ship for one Twelve Month, there is no Hopes of ever ſeeing this Trade flouriſh, nor we can't think any Body can trade upon Loſs, which they muſt inevitably do if they will not have a little Patience, and let their Factors diſpoſe of what they have got. Signed, *Kenelm* and *Everard Fawkener.*

From Meſſieurs Henry, John *and* Thomas March *in* Smyrna, *to Mr.* Francis Townly *in* London.

Smyrna, *November* 20, 1718.

WE have not troubled you for ſome Time, as you may ſee by the foregoing Copy of the 2 and 7 *Auguſt*, and now are heartily ſorry that muſt adviſe you, we have not been able to make any farther Progreſs in the Sale of your Cloth, the Demand for neither of the Byrams having anſwer'd Expectation, very little Cloth having for ſome Time been diſpoſed of by our Nation, beſides about 70 *Londras* to the *Yenoſherlies*, and about 50 *Nimes*, from about Dollars 160 to Dollars 165 *per* Cloth; theſe are the chief Sales we have heard of. *Signed*, Henry, John *and* Tho. March.

From Meſſieurs Henry, John *and* Thomas March *in* Smyrna, *to Mr.* William Dunſtter. *in* London.

Smyrna, *October* 15, 1718.

WE are now to own Receipt of your Favours 6 *June* and 17 *July*; we note what you mention about the Sale of your Cloth, and are obliged for your Approval; we ſhould be glad could adviſe you, that if had remained, there is Appearance of their doing better, but we aſſure, That Trade has hitherto been ſo dull, that ſhould not have ſold them at any Rate. *Sign'd*, Henry, John *and* Tho. March.

WE

Aleppo, November 21, 1718.

WE are now to own the Receipt of your Favours *August* 21, the Demand for Cloth hitherto having been ſo inconſiderable as has not been known for many Years, in ſo much that the Perſon who engaged in your Parcel, can't find its Diſpoſal, tho' gives it at Credit.

Sign'd, Henry, John *and* Tho. March.

From Meſſieurs Kenelm *and* Everard Fawkener *in* Aleppo, *to Mr.* William Snelling *in* London.

Aleppo, May 22, 1718.

WE are of Opinion, the Trade, on the Foot as it now ſtands, cannot continue long, for People will ſoon be tired of loſing their Money; ſo that if the Company will not endeavour to put the Trade into a better Method, nothing will be done here.

Kenelm *and* Everard Fawkener.

SIR, *Aleppo, June* 18, 1718. and kept till 24 *Ditto.*

YESTERDAY came to Hand your much obliging Favour of 17 and 24 of *April*, the latter of which brought us the much long'd for News, That the Company had confirmed their Reſolution of carrying on their Trade by General Ships, and Deſign to detard their Shipping at leaſt 12 Months, and longer if ſhould be thought convenient for the Good of the Trade; for our Part, we ſo far approve of what they have done, that if they had ſent down Ships next Winter, the Trade would have been utterly undone.

It appears ſtrange to us, any Body of the Company who have Eſtates to loſe or get, ſhould appear in Oppoſition to ſo good a Work, and really we are at a Stand to judge out of what Deſign it can be. *Sign'd*, Kenelm *and* Everard Fawkener.

From Meſſieurs Balam Buckley *and Company, and* James Vernon *in* Aleppo, *to Mr.* Edward Vernon *in* London.

Aleppo, Auguſt 22, 1718.

WE are heartily ſorry to perceive upon how bad a Footing your Trade was at home, to retrieve which, both there and here, the Company have taken the ſureſt, and indeed the only proper Method, by their Reſolution to carry it on in future by General Ships, which moſt Gentlemen were inclined to detain a Year longer; and as we are perſuaded that will be much for the publick Good, we hope they will be able to ſurmount any Oppoſition that may be made. *Sign'd*, Balam Buckley *and Company, and* James Vernon.

From Mr. John Godſchall *in* Aleppo, *to Meſſieurs* John *and* Nicholas Godſchall *in* London.

Aleppo, May 7, 1718.

WIthout a ſufficient Time to diſpoſe and give Vent to the great Load we have at Market, the Company will be ruined. *Sign'd*, john Godſchall.

From Meſſieurs Balam *and Company in* Aleppo, *to Mr.* George Buckley *in* London.

Aleppo, June 30, 1718.

WE are pleaſed to ſee the Company have taken ſo neceſſary a Reſolution to retrieve their Trade, as to drive it in future by General Ships. *Sign'd*, Balam *and Comp.*

From Mr. Thomas Whateley *of* Aleppo, *to Meſſieurs* Balam *and* Buckley *in* London.

Aleppo, June 30, 1718.

THE Company's late Reſolution to carry on this Trade in future by General Ships, will probably prevent the coming down of any Cloth till *September* 1719; as I have always my Friends Intereſt nearer at Heart than my own, I rejoyce at this News, being I am perſuaded, the only Way to retrieve the ſinking Trade, and re-eſtabliſh it upon a good Foundation. *Sign'd*, Thomas Whately.

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